

Federal Transportation Funding 101

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Future updates and information:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/funding/federal

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**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Some Congressional 101...

Authorizing Committees

Establishes , continues, and modifies agencies and programs, funding ceilings, criteria and rules, and funds some projects.

House Transportation - Reps. Larsen, Baird

House Ways & Means - Reps. McDermott, Reichert

Sets tax policy and budget levels to guide appropriations.

Senate Banking - No representation

Transit.

Senate Commerce and Science - Cantwell

Highway safety, aviation, rail issues.

Senate Environment & Public Works - No representation

Highways.

Senate Energy & Natural Resources - Cantwell

Senate Budget - Murray

Sets budget level for other committees.

Senate Finance - No representation

Sets fuel taxes, tax policy.

Appropriating Committees

Specifies what's funded, the amount, and any requirements & restrictions. May add or adjust program and spending criteria.

House Appropriations - Rep. Dicks

Transportation, Treasury and Independent Agencies Subcommittee - **No representation**

Homeland Security Subcommittee - **No representation**

Senate Appropriations - Senator Murray

Transportation, Treasury, Housing Subcommittee -
Senator Murray – Chair

Homeland Security Subcommittee - **Senator Murray**

Some federal transportation 101...

Federal surface transportation law establishes

- federal transportation taxes and fees
- distribution of federal funding among states and local agencies
- funding levels for transportation modes and programs
- rules for how funds can be spent
- safety and environmental regulations that guide the design, construction and operation of state and local transportation facilities using federal funds

Who gets federal transportation funds & for what?

Who:	State	Counties
	Cities	Ports
	Transits	Universities
	Airports	Regional Groups
	Ferries	Coalitions
For:	Construction	Planning, Design
	Research	Rail Crossings & Facilities
	Busses	Bus Facilities
	ITS	Trails
	Runways & Towers	Ferries & Terminals
	Security improvements	Historic Redevelopment
	Sidewalks	Museums
	Parking lots	Visitors & Welcome Centers

How much federal transportation funding does Washington State receive?

SAFETEA-LU (the 6-year authorizing legislation) provided about \$550 million in earmarks for 116 state & local projects¹.

Annual appropriations earmarking provides about \$55 million.

Annual formula funding is an important supplement and complement to state transportation funding¹:

29% of the 2007-2009 WSDOT capital budget

24% of the 2009-2011 WSDOT capital budget¹

¹ Percentages and numbers are approximate and subject to change per Congressional action.

SAFETEA-LU project funding by region

- East (Adams, Asotin, Benton, Ferry, Franklin, Okanogan, Spokane, Walla Walla)
\$27,774,000 for 13 projects
- Central (Chelan, Yakima)
\$9,250,000 for 3 projects
- Northwest (Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan, Island)
\$27,442,400 for 13 projects
- Puget Sound (Snohomish, King, Pierce, Kitsap)
\$416,675,680 for 63 projects
\$227 for Alaska Way Viaduct
- Southwest (Thurston, Lewis, Cowlitz, Pacific, Clark, Skamania, Klickitat, Wahkiakum)
\$56,439,000 for 25 projects
- Statewide
\$750,000 for 1 project

Earmarks at-a-glance

- **Federal transportation earmarks are** Congressionally-designated funds of a specific amount for specific projects. They are found in annual appropriations legislation that funds federal transportation programs, and in the authorizing legislation which is passed about every six years.
- **Use of federal transportation funds requires compliance with a variety of federal laws** governing consultant selection, environmental protection, right-of-way acquisition, labor and wage practices; and financial management.
- **Federal funds are paid as a reimbursement of expenses**, and are not provided in advance. Federal funds also require a non-federal funding match.
- **Earmark funds are become available about 12 to 18 months after being submitted** to Members.

Earmarks at-a-glance, continued

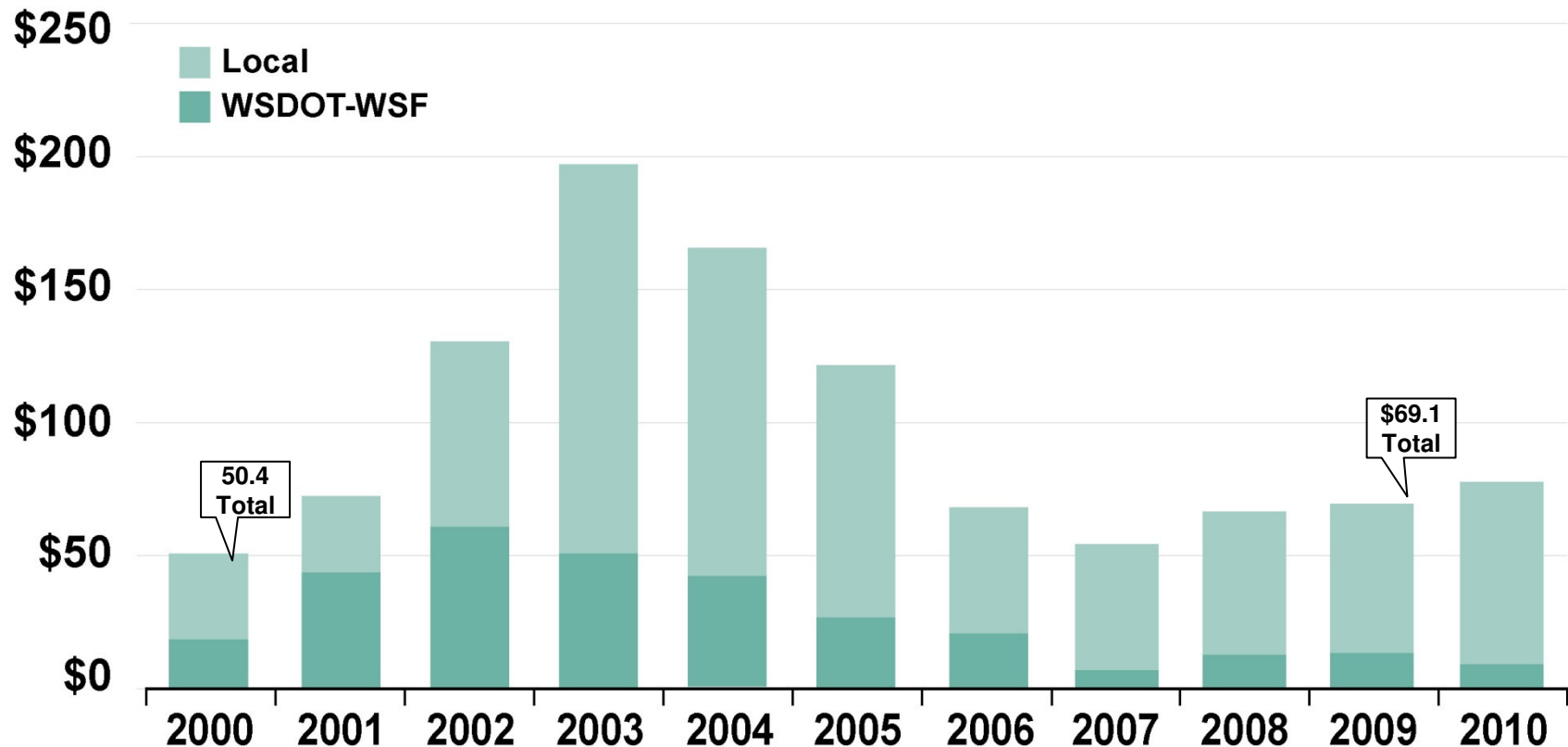
- **Transportation earmarks are requested primarily by** WSDOT, local agencies (including ports, cities and counties), and transit agencies.
- **About ten times more project requests than can be funded** are submitted to Congressional members.
- **The total dollar amount of the requests of each member is often 20 or 30 times higher than is available** to a Congressional member. Agencies rarely receive the full amount requested for the project
- **The numbers of earmarks, and the funding levels, have declined and levelled off.** This trend is expected to continue.

Earmarks: The Process

- **Earmark requests are solicited by members of the state's congressional delegation sometime in the first quarter of the calendar year.** Local agencies work directly with members in submitting their requests.
- **Congressional members submit earmark requests to Appropriations Committee staff in spring.**
- **Appropriations Committee leadership selects earmarks** in consultation with other Members and staff.
- **The Appropriations bill is debated, amended, and passed by the Transportation subcommittee and full Appropriations committee** in the House and Senate sometime in late spring to early fall.
- **The full House and the full Senate each debate, amend, and pass their version of the legislation;** this typically occurs in late fall, but often is delayed.
- **A small group of Representatives and Senators negotiate a final bill.** Each chamber passes the final bill, and the **President signs the bill into law.** This typically occurs in late fall, but often is delayed.

Dollars of federal earmarks, all surface transportation modes, for Washington State have leveled off

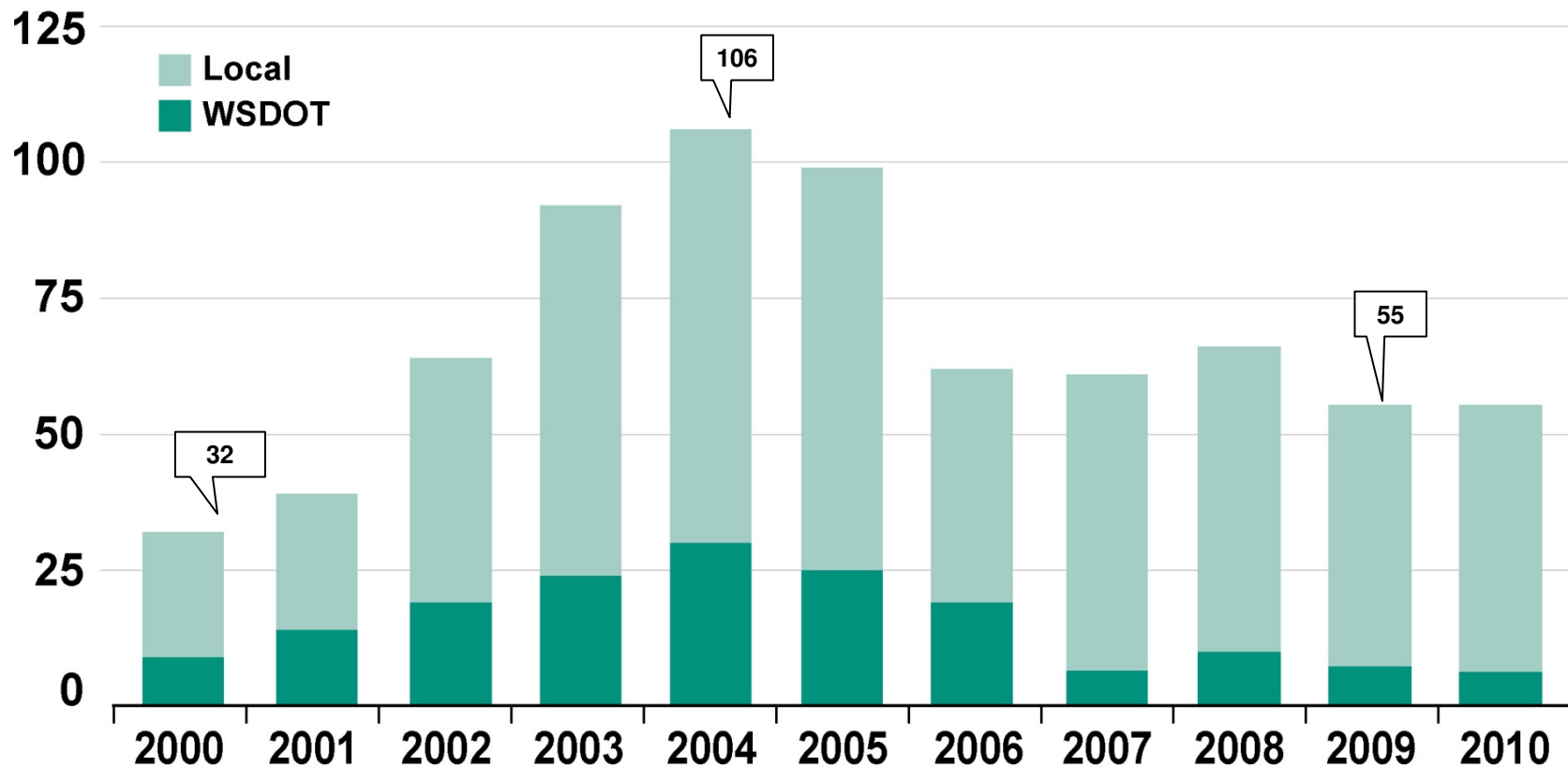
Dollars in Millions



Note: Excludes earmarks for Sound Transit.

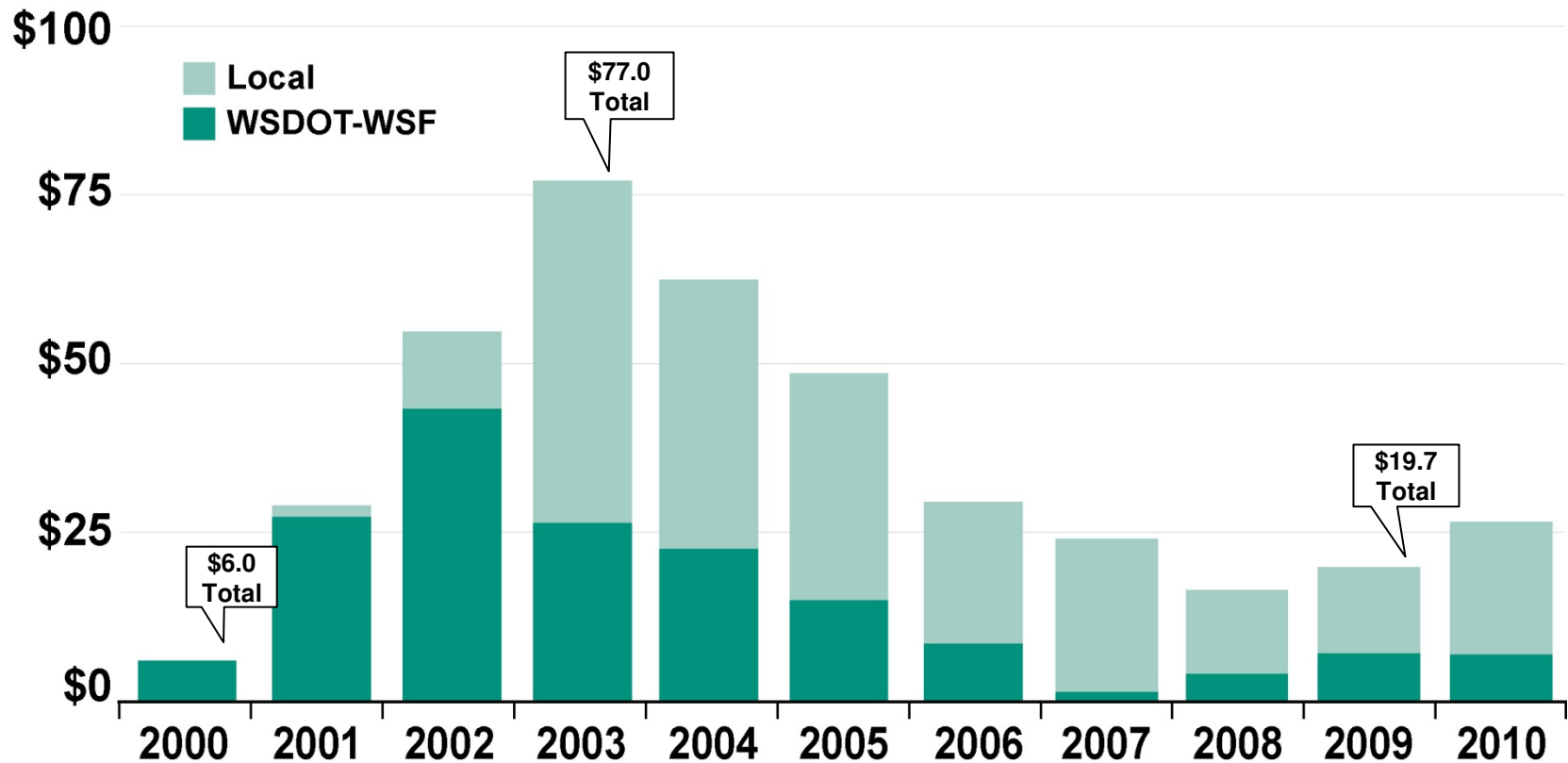
Updated August 2009

Number of federal earmarks, all surface transportation modes, for Washington State have leveled off

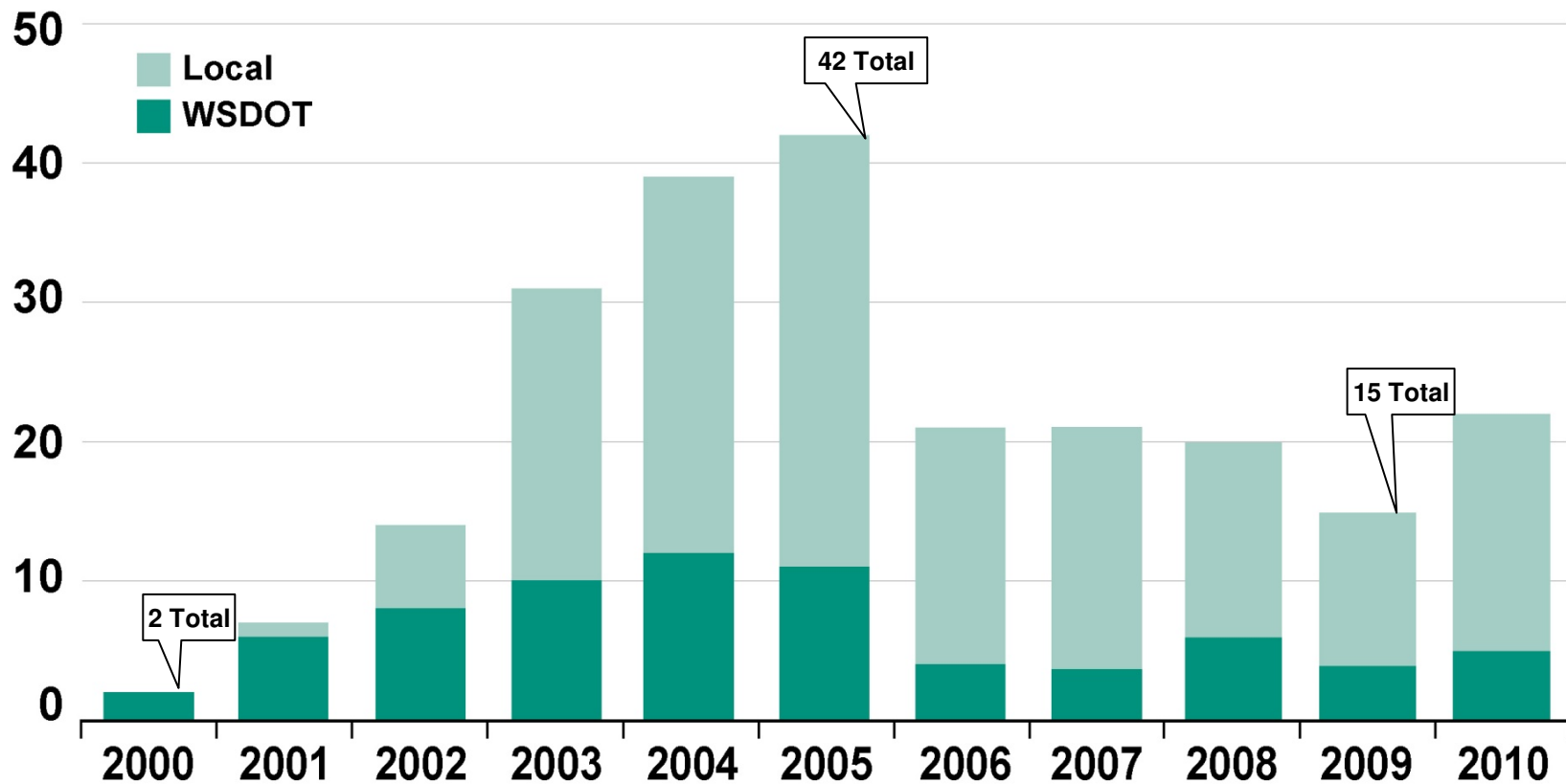


Dollars of federal highway project earmarks in Washington State have leveled off

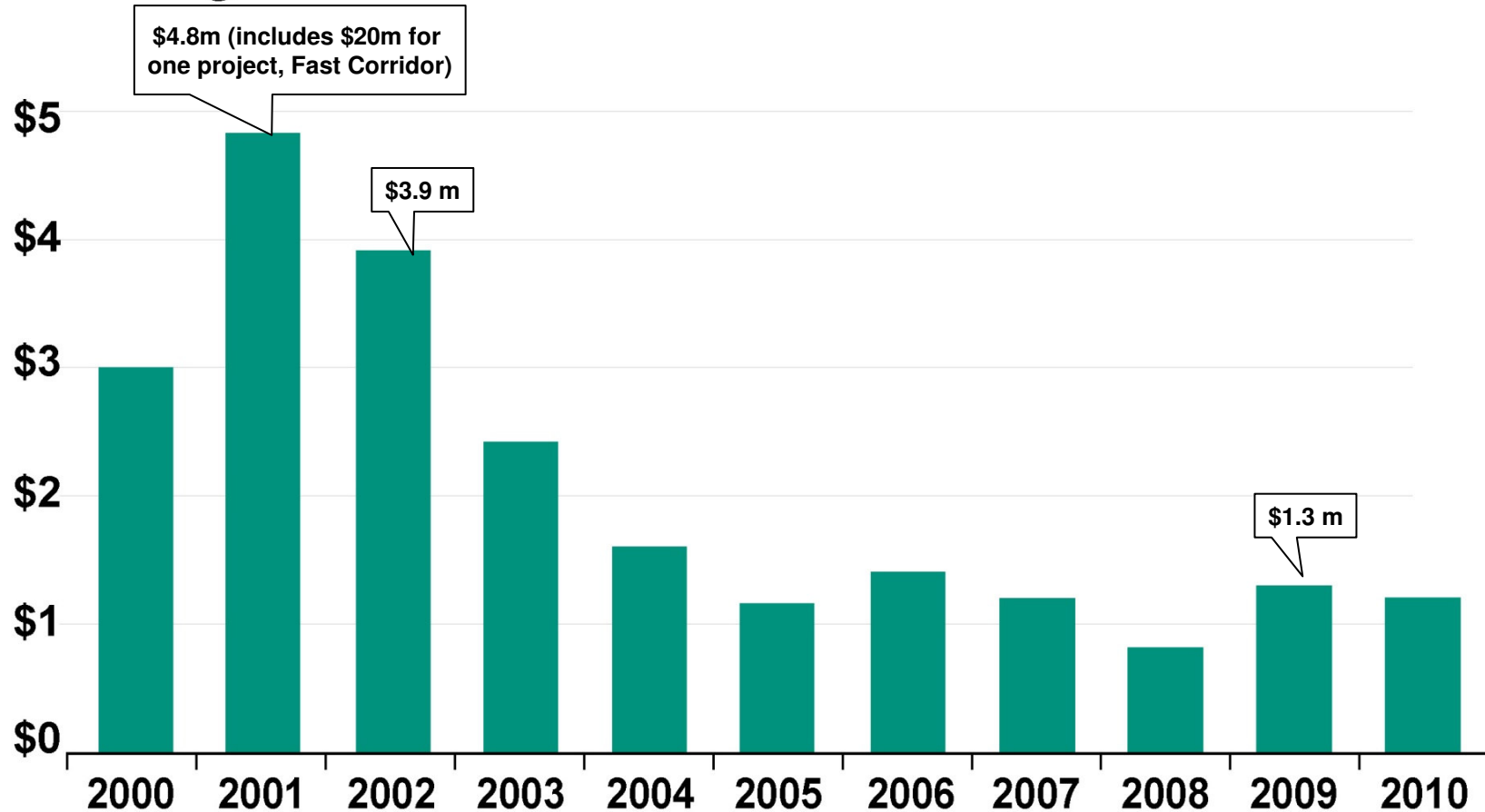
Dollars in Millions



Number of federal earmarks for highway projects for Washington State have leveled off



***Average federal earmark* for highway projects in Washington State has leveled off**



2010 Federal Transportation Funding Opportunities

Program	Applications due	Who can apply	Apply to whom?	Funds disbursed	\$\$ / Project
2009 Approps 10/08--9/09	Early 2008	State and locals	Congress	Mid/late 2009	~ 1.5 million
ARRA formula	Early 2009	State and locals	WSDOT and USDOT	2009-2010	Varies
ARRA grants	Mid-late 2009	State and locals	USDOT	2009-2010	
2010 Approps 10/09-- 9/10	March 2009	State and locals	Congress	Mid/late 2010	~ 1.5 million
Reauthorization - House	April 2009	State and locals	Congress	TBD	\$100k – 200m over 6 years
Reauthorization - Senate	TBD	State and locals	Congress	TBD	\$100k – 200m over 6 years
2011 Approps 10/10-- 9/11	Early 2010	State and locals	Congress	Mid/late 2011	~ 1.5 million
Reauthorization if no bill in 2009	Early 2010?	State and locals	Congress	TBD	\$100k – 200m over 6 years

All dates and opportunities subject to change

Increasing the odds for success

- Answer every question on application
- Answer in plain English – no engineer-speak
- Broad support and endorsement (e.g., city, county and regional governments; business, neighborhoods; interest groups)
- Explain the project's need and justification, with citations
- First dollar in? (Everyone wants to be *last* dollar in)
- What specifically will funding accomplish?
- What is the strategy for fully funding the project?
- Don't pit federal and state delegations against one another
- Personal tours, personal stories – motivates and helps memory
- Remember who funded your project – invite to ceremonies